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Funeral for Victim of Riot Keeps Memphis on Edge

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI) — Riot-trained state troopers and National Guardsmen maintained their vigil over this racially troubled Mississippi River metropolis today. Authorities were "apprehensive" about plans to hold a two-hour wake for a 16-year-old Negro killed by police in last week's rioting.

"We're worried, but what can you do about a funeral?" said Assistant Police Chief W. E. Routt.

Routt said the city, where one person was killed, 62 were injured and almost 300 were jailed in racial violence Thursday, was "mostly quiet Sunday. However, police officials predicted "tension will build again" today when civil rights leaders and the city's Negro community join in a wake for Larry Payne.

Adding to the fears was a report that Dr. Martin Luther King had sent four of his closest aides to Memphis to meet with local Negro leaders planning "massive nonviolent demonstrations" in support of the city's 1,300 striking sanitation workers.

King led the Thursday march which touched off the worst racial incident in the historic city's history. The Nobel Peace Prize winner plans to return Tuesday to lead more marches and his involvement here may postpone his publicized April 22 "poor people's campaign" in the nation's capital.

A Justice Department investigation into the slaying of Payne began Sunday. Police said the youth was caught carrying a television from a looted store and attacked patrolman L. J. Jones with a knife.

Jones, 25, said the youth attacked him "with the biggest knife I ever saw." The stocky officer said he was "very sorry it happened. I didn't want to kill him."

The service for Payne was scheduled for the Clayborn Temple AME Church.

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King Threatens Demonstration At Conventions

By LAWRENCE L. KNUDSON

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said Sunday that if his planned poor people's demonstration in Washington does not produce results in Congress, he may stage mass protests at the Democratic and Republican conventions.

King, an ordained Baptist minister, commented minutes after preaching to a predominantly white congregation that filled all 4,000 seats in Washington's prestigious Episcopal cathedral and spilled onto the steps and lawns outside.

"We're not coming to tear Washington apart," King told the congregation. "We're coming to demand to know if the government will address itself to the problems of poverty."

At his news conference, King said his Washington demonstrations will start April 22 with 200 to 300 persons who will talk with congressional leaders. They will be followed later in the week by 3,000 to 4,000 selected demonstrators who will build a shantytown at some still unchosen site inside the city, he said.

King said he expects a mass march, tentatively set for June 15th, will bring hundreds of thousands of demonstrators to the city to confront what he called "the goliath of opposition" to racial progress.

A demonstration which King led in Memphis last week erupted into riotous looting but he said his Washington demonstrators will be "trained in the technique of nonviolence."

In Atlanta, Dr. King's office said King plans to return to Memphis Tuesday where he will likely lead another march and organize some economic actions against discrimination there.

Four top SCLC aides were sent to Memphis to meet Sunday with local leadership from "all elements." The four — Hosea Williams, the Rev. James Bevel, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and James Orange — met with church, labor, business and militant leaders to work with them on "the issue of action for poverty," a SCLC spokesman said.

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King to Lead More Memphis Marches

MEMPHIS (UPI)—Negro leaders announced Monday that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will return to this troubled city Tuesday and lead demonstrations "every day." King's lieutenant met with local Negro leaders Monday and announced that "we are going to escalate our pressure on this city."

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Monday March Planned To Force Memphis Issues

NEW YORK (UPI) — A civil rights leader and a labor leader announced Wednesday the two forces would join together for the first time for a massive "March on Memphis" Monday to support 1,300 sanitation men striking for union recognition.

Bayard Rustin, president of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and organizer of the 1964 civil rights march on Washington, and Victor Gotbaum, executive director of District Council 37, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes, said they expected more than 6,000 persons from throughout the United States to converge on Memphis and march from Claiborne church to city hall at noon Monday.

Memphis was the scene of racial disorders just last week when civil rights leader Martin Luther King led another march in support of the striking sanitation men, who are 98 per cent Negro.

KING HAD planned a second march for Friday, but Rustin and Gotbaum said he had canceled it in deference to the Monday march and that King would take part.

Gotbaum said he expected more than 1,000 persons from New York alone, and that others would come from every major city in the United States.

"We are confident that this march will be massive and nonviolent and completely successful," Gotbaum said.

Rustin said, "The working poor in the South have not been able to organize and this is the first attempt to get the working poor to organize."

He said that, instead of piecemeal antipoverty programs, poor workers in the South should pull themselves out of the poverty level through labor organization.

"As Montgomery (Ala.) was the beginning of the struggle for equality in public accomodation," Rustin said, "Memphis is the beginning of the struggle for economic equality through trade union development."

GOTBAUM SAID that only through national solidarity and a "national thrust" by the labor movement would the striking sanitation men succeed against what he described as the "anti-union" mayor of Memphis.

He said other New York or national labor leaders who would march included Harry Van Arsdale, head of the New York Labor Council, and Paul Hall, a vice president of the AFL-CIO and head of the Seafarers International Union.

Rustin said representatives of the marchers were applying to the city of Memphis for march permits but "this march will take place whether there is a license or not."

Gotbaum said the New York labor groups had chartered two aircraft to make the trip to Memphis and that a third probably would be needed. Other workers and civil rights activists would drive to Memphis.

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he said, "if he were killed by a policeman all hell, wholesale violence, would break loose in the country."

MEANWHILE, Dr. King continued to insist that he would return to Memphis and that the Washington march would be held as planned.

His aides have publicly noted the importance of both campaigns to the future of Dr. King and the entire civil rights movement.

King's aides said he had no choice after the Memphis riot except to return this week to try a peaceful mass march. If he stays away, they say, he is saddled with the stigma of Thursday's failure.

This time, as in his Washington plans, King will meet the militant youths and ask them to join him as parade marshals responsible for maintaining nonviolence.

"We are eminently qualified to deal with this sort of situation," King said. "We have fellows on the staff that are big enough to control it."

Yet King adds, "I cannot guarantee that our demonstrations will not be violent. Riots are here. Riots are now a part of our society."

"I don't want to put myself in the position of God, but I am convinced we can hold a nonviolent march in Memphis and Washington."

Since the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott of 1956, King has followed the nonviolent philosophy and tactics of India's late Mohandas K. (Mahatma) Gandhi.

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U.S. Judge Bars March In Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI)—A federal judge issued an order Wednesday barring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from holding a massive 6,000-man march in Memphis next Monday, but the integration leader promptly announced he would ignore it.

"We are not going to be stopped by mace (chemical disabling gas) or injunctions or any other method that the city plans to use," King said.

King, who was to address a rally here later Wednesday night, claimed the injunction or temporary restraining order was a "basic denial of First Amendment privileges."

City officials sought the injunction in view of the violence that flared last Thursday when King led an earlier march. One person was killed, 62 injured and 276 arrested in the aftermath of that demonstration.

National labor leaders and hundreds of other outsiders were expected to join the Monday march.

In issuing his temporary restraining order, U.S. District Court Judge Bailey Brown barred King, his aides, and "all non-residents acting in concert" with them from "organizing or engaging in a massive parade or march in the city of Memphis, Tenn."

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